

June 12, 1999

FDA
5600 Fishers Ln
Rockville, MD 20857

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Dear Sir/Madaam:

I would like to address a very serious concern I have about the genetic engineering of food. Genetic engineering is just one more huge link in the ugly, cold, scientific chain of events ruining our values and the Planet. The saddest part of the story is that the whole point is money. Monsanto and other giants can never convince me that there are humanitarian concerns behind any of their decisions. Otherwise, why would labelling g.e. products or non-g.e. products be a threat (not to mention the rBGH controversy).

I recently read that Karen Marshall, Director of Public Relations for the Agricultural Sector of Monsanto said, "...If you did mandatory labelling, what's the label going to say? That it's a product of Biotechnology? What does that actually tell a consumer?...". It would tell me a lot!

I believe our values have been compromised by the rapid abundance of technology. The Planet is suffering which harms every organism it supports, including Human Beings.

My point is, if a tomato in the produce department is labelled as being genetically engineered, I will not buy it. The label tells me it is tampered with, in effect, not a *real* tomato. I believe, unless a product is certified organic, consumers should know exactly what is in it, including fertilizers and pesticides (also including what has been fed/given to the animal that the food came from).


I am tired of being mislead about important choices in my life. I am upset and dismayed that large companies have more influence in our society than the true well-being of the citizens of the World.

The economy is not more important than the health and peace of mind of the individual. It is long past time to slow down and evaluate where we are headed.

Please count my voice, as well as my family, as being opposed to the practice of genetically engineering food. If the practice must continue, please count this as a plea for labelling the products as genetically engineered.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


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CROSS FILE SHEET

FILE NO: 98P-1194/C160

SEE FILE NO: 92N-0139/C5653